



AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

# BREEDER'S REFERENCE GUIDE

For any registry to be successful, accuracy and honesty must be foremost in the minds of owners and breeders.

The popularity of the American Quarter Horse has made the American Quarter Horse Association the largest equine registry in the world. The computer age has streamlined the turn-around time for registration certificates and transfers, but has not eliminated the human error.

In efforts to eliminate mistakes in registering and transferring an American Quarter Horse, this identification and registration procedures booklet has been prepared.

This AQHA publication, through the use of diagrams, pictures, and a concise description of the registration process, hopefully will answer many of your questions and eliminate errors.

If at any time you find errors in the markings or color on the registration certificate, notify the Association immediately, giving full details of the discrepancy so proper changes can be made. A 30 day period after the registration certificate is mailed by AQHA is allowed for these color and marking changes, after which time the normal correction fee, necessary pictures, and affidavits will be required. (See "Correction of Registration Certificate," **AQHA Official Handbook.**)

Accuracy is the word. Please study this booklet carefully before filling out the registration application. If you have any questions or problems, please notify the registration department of the AQHA before you send in the registration application. One telephone call or letter could help you receive the registration certificate at a much earlier date.

## BREEDER'S REFERENCE GUIDE TO REGISTERING AND TRANSFERRING AN AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE

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The Official Stud Book for the American Quarter Horse Association has two parts. The numbered section of the registry, which makes up the largest portion of registered American Quarter Horses, consists of horses registered from parents that are numbered American Quarter Horses.

The second type of registration is the appendix registry. Requirements for the appendix are that one parent be a numbered American Quarter Horse and the other parent be registered either a Thoroughbred with The Jockey Club of New York City or any Thoroughbred registry recognized by The Jockey Club. Additionally, foals which have one parent a numbered American Quarter Horse and the other parent appendix registered are eligible for registration in the appendix. An appendix horse may advance to the AQHA numbered registry and receive a registration number by fulfilling the requirements of the Register of Merit and passing a conformation inspection by an AQHA inspector.

To be registered with the American Quarter Horse Association in either the numbered or appendix registry, a horse shall not have passed the expiration of four years since January 1 of the year it was foaled. For example, during the year 1982, registration and applications will be accepted for foals of 1979, 1980, 1981, and 1982.

As you begin to fill out the registration application, one point cannot be stressed enough; that is: **FILL IN EVERY BLANK**. When you fail to complete the application in its entirety, it delays the application until you, the owner and/or breeder, supply all information to complete the application.

If there is a problem, you will receive a letter from the Association requesting the needed information. Under no circumstances, after the processing has begun will the registration application be returned to you. A photocopy of the application may be returned if there is additional information needed which was omitted from the original application. To avoid delays, read and follow instructions to the letter. The following paragraphs should help you with the application.

The first line of the registration application (shown on Page 5) is for three name choices for the foal. Not more than 18 letters, including spaces, can be used. The use of a single letter (initial) preceding or following a name is not allowed, but the 18 characters may include a separate prefix of two to four letters and/or a separate suffix of two to four letters. No Roman numerals are permitted and no Arabic numerals are permitted unless part of a separate suffix of three to five Arabic numerals. No punctuation marks, such as apostrophies or hyphens, are allowed. If all three name choices have been used, AQHA will select a suitable name, if you check the box below the name choice line. If you do not check this box, you will be sent a letter requesting three additional name choices.

The next set of boxes are for color. Beginning on page 16 of this booklet are illustrations of horses representing the thirteen recognized colors of AQHA. From the colors listed, check the one color that most nearly matches your foal.

Indicate the sex of a horse by checking the box. If a horse is gelded or a mare spayed after the registration is completed, it should be reported to the Association.

On the line indicating foaling date, month and year are required, though the exact date may be omitted if it is not known. List the state or country where the foal was born in the adjoining box.

The next category requests the name and number of the sire and dam of the horse being registered.

Next, fill in the name and address of the owner (or authorized lessee) of the sire at the time the breeding took place. On the line marked **BREEDER**, print the name, AQHA ID number and address of the owner (or lessee) of dam at the time of breeding. On the line marked **ORIGINAL OWNER OF FOAL**, print the name, AQHA ID number and address of the owner (or recorded lessee) of the mare at the time she foaled the horse being registered.

The next lines call for the **written signature** and **complete mailing address** of the **ORIGINAL OWNER OF THE FOAL** (or his authorized agent). Remember to **sign** this line rather than print the name.

Remember the application for registration must be accompanied by the correct fees as listed or it will be returned. If the incorrect amount of money accompanies the application, you will be billed for the balance due.

Notice the registration application includes the breeder's certificate. The first line of the breeder's certificate asks for the name of the stallion giving service and his registration number. The next line asks for the name of the mare and her registration number. The third line asks for the dates the mare was bred and the year the breeding took place. The last two lines require the signatures of the owner (or lessee or authorized agent) of the stallion and the mare at the time the breeding took place. ID numbers of each of these entities are also required. The breeder's certificate section must be completed unless the same entity (person, partnership, corporation, etc.) owned the sire and dam at the time of service and the dam at the time of foaling.

Part three of the application is to be completed if the foal is to be transferred by the ORIGINAL OWNER OF THE FOAL at the same time it is registered. Since a number of foals are sold before registration or are to be recorded in the name of someone other than the ORIGINAL OWNER OF THE FOAL, the completion of this section of the registration form will accommodate the change in recorded ownership during one process, the cost of which is \$7.50 in addition to the registration fee. This form is *not* to be used in transferring a horse that is already registered.

The first line calls for the buyer's name which must not exceed thirty characters including letters, spaces and marks of punctuation. The buyer's AQHA ID number and mailing address are required. Next, the date of the sale of the foal to the new owner is requested, followed by the signature of the seller. The seller should be the same as the owner of the dam of the foal when it was born. If the foal has changed ownership more than once, attach additional transfer reports.

On the back of the registration application, all markings of the horse being registered must be outlined in the corresponding diagrams. Also, all scars and brands must be drawn in the appropriate areas.

At the bottom of the diagram, written descriptions of each of the horse's markings are called for. Examples of various markings can be found on pages 13 and 14.



# REGISTRATION APPLICATION

(On Diagram Below, (DOTTED) with Dots Solid Lines All Show Markings of horse being Registered.  
(SEE DRAWING 4.) SCARS and BRANDS to their markings can be placed only Registered Certificate.  
Markings on sides of head and this could be drawn on diagram.  
NOTE: CLEAR PHOTOGRAPH OF HORSE'S MARKINGS MAY BE REQUIRED.)

The diagram shows a horse from the side with four numbered points indicating marking locations: (11) on the neck, (12) on the hindquarters, (13) on the hind leg, and (14) on the fore leg. Below the horse are four detailed templates for the legs and head. The leg templates are labeled (1) LEFT FORE LEG, (2) RIGHT FORE LEG, (3) LEFT HIND LEG, and (4) RIGHT HIND LEG. Each leg template has four columns labeled FRONT, OUTSIDE, INSIDE, and BACK, and three rows labeled KNEE, ANKLE, and PASTERN. The head template is labeled (5) HEAD MARKINGS and has two columns labeled FRONT and BACK, and three rows labeled KNEE, ANKLE, and PASTERN. A central box labeled (6) HEAD MARKINGS contains a drawing of a horse's head with the instruction 'DRAW IN EVERY WHITE AREA'. Below the templates is a section for the written description of markings.

INDICATE ALL DARK SPOTS WITHIN WHITE AREAS

WRITTEN DESCRIPTION OF MARKINGS:

ON HEAD: \_\_\_\_\_

(1) LEFT FORE LEG: \_\_\_\_\_

(2) RIGHT FORE LEG: \_\_\_\_\_

(3) LEFT HIND LEG: \_\_\_\_\_

(4) RIGHT HIND LEG: \_\_\_\_\_

(5) OTHER OR UNUSUAL MARKINGS OR COLOR (Glass eye, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

COLOR OF MANE AND TAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SCARS AND BRANDS: \_\_\_\_\_

For Office Use Only: \_\_\_\_\_

# CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

## Certificate of Registration THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION Amarillo, Texas 79168

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ Foal No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Horse No. (Number) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Color \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

This is to certify that the horse named and described herein has been registered in the Book of The American Quarter Horse Association. This certificate is issued on request of a written application submitted and passed by the secretaries of the association and upon the express condition that the Association has the right to cancel and to annul any license or to take under its rules and regulations.

Any Transfer

NON-NEGOTIABLE

ONLY

OFFICE COPY

TRANSFER RECORD

The sign named herein transferred to the present owner of this horse as shown on the receipt of the transfer of the American Quarter Horse Association. The owner of the horse must transfer on a separate transfer form or bill of sale, which will be furnished during the application. This is the office of the American Quarter Horse Association, including with the registration certificate and the transfer fee. The transfer of ownership will not be made on this certificate and must be certified.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY — DO NOT WRITE ON THIS CERTIFICATE

Date of Purchase	Name and Address of Owner as Given to Transfer record	Name of Record by Transfer

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For registered horses changing ownership, a transfer form must be completed to record the new ownership with AQHA. The form must be filled out completely.

Also, please remember, as stated on the transfer report, that any alteration or erasing will require verification from the seller. If you make an error, get another form and start over again. Although it may seem a waste of time and a lot of trouble, it is a safeguard for you and AQHA.

In the first block, the name of the horse and its registration number are requested. If the horse is not yet registered, list the year foaled, name of sire and dam, and their numbers on the lower lines.

The second block requests the date of sale which should include the month, day and year.

The buyer's name should be printed in the boxes provided, with the name of the buyer not to exceed 30 characters. This includes letters, spaces and marks of punctuation. If the buyer is a member of the Association, the AQHA ID number should be recorded on the transfer form in the space provided. A complete address for the buyer should also be given on the transfer form in the appropriate space, as well as the telephone number of the buyer.

Under "Seller," print or type the name of seller(s) of the horse, and the seller's AQHA ID number. A complete, current address for the seller, including box or street number, city, state and zip code, should be listed also.

The seller of the horse should sign the transfer report with the same name that is on record at AQHA.

If the horse was consigned to a sale, the date consigned and mailing address of the sale company are required. This helps the Association verify sale dates and the name and address of the purchaser if the need arises. It also relieves the seller of certain responsibilities which otherwise he must meet or be liable for possible disciplinary action.

The space at the bottom of the transfer form is for office use only and must be left blank.

Never buy a horse without first checking the registration certificate to see that the seller is the last recorded owner of the horse being sold. Make sure the color and markings on the registration certificate match that of the horse you are purchasing.

## TRANSFER REPORT

# TRANSFER REPORT

THE AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION  
AMARILLO, TEXAS 79168

INSTRUCTIONS: (Print or type all requested information)

- CAUTION: The color and markings of the horse should be checked against the registration certificate.
- Registration certificate and transfer fee must accompany this form.
- All blanks must be completed, including written signature of seller. Seller's signature must conform with last recorded owner. Any erasure or alterations of this form will necessitate verification.

**TRANSFER FEE \$7.50. U. S. FUNDS ONLY.**

I/We hereby authorize the AQHA to record the transfer of ownership on the horse.

NAME OF HORSE  AQHA REG. NO. OR APPENDIX CODE

IF NOT YET REGISTERED (list year foaled and number of sire and dam)

Year foaled  Sire  Dam

DATE OF SALE  19  **IMPORTANT**  
(list month, day and year horse actually changed ownership)

TO:   
BUYER

Print Buyer's name which must not exceed 30 characters (letters, spaces and marks of punctuation).

BUYER'S AQHA ID NUMBER 

MAILING ADDRESS OF BUYER

Street or Box Number City State Zip Code

Buyer's Phone: Area Code  No. 

I/WE further certify that the horse sold is the horse registered with the Association as described in the Certificate of Registration delivered to AQHA.

Written Signature of Seller Printed Name of Seller SELLER'S AQHA ID NUMBER 

MAILING ADDRESS OF SELLER

Street or Box Number City State Zip Code

REQUIRED: IF CONSIGNED TO AUCTION SALE PLEASE GIVE NAME, DATE AND MAILING ADDRESS OF SALE CO.

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

Before any horse can be registered, a completed and properly signed Stallion Breeding Report must be on file with the AQHA.

This report is due December 1 of each year on all stallions, both registered and Appendix Quarter Horses and Thoroughbreds, to which registered Quarter Horse mares are exposed. A late fee of \$10 is charged for each mare submitted after the deadline.

A separate record sheet should be kept on each stallion used for breeding purposes. The report shall include all mares owned by the owner of the stallion as well as mares owned by other parties.

To assist the stallion owner or lessee in preparing the Stallion Breeding Report, he should request to see the registration certificate of each mare bred. Be sure the last recorded owner or lessee is the person who contracts the breeding to your stallion and that the mare matches the registration certificate.

Make sure you provide on the report the exact date(s) of breeding. If more than one service is given a mare, be sure to show the different dates. If the mare is pasture bred, give the date the mare was turned into the pasture and the date she was taken out of the pasture.

Keep a copy of the Stallion Breeding Report for your files and for future reference.

The first four blocks on the Stallion Breeding Report are for the stallion's complete name and AQHA registration number, Appendix code, or Thoroughbred registration number.

In the 15 lines provided below the stallion's name, give the names and registration numbers of the mares bred as recorded with the AQHA or Jockey Club; the recorded owner or lessee of each mare at the time of service, and the dates bred. Use additional forms if necessary. However, a separate report form must be used for each breeding season.

# STALLION BREEDING REPORT

**MUST BE POSTMARKED ON  
OR BEFORE THE FIRST  
DAY OF DECEMBER**

AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION  
Amarillo, Texas 79168

## STALLION BREEDING REPORT

### IMPORTANT

late filing fee of \$10.00 per mare  
breeding record is required.  
Complete breeding records are necessary.

Stallion's Name	AQUA Bred No.	AQUA Appendix Entry	Thoroughbred Bred Number
Location of Stallion during breeding year			
Registered Name of Mare Used	Stallion's Age At Breeding	Year Used in Breeding Year used in breeding	Year used in breeding
		Number of mares of name of mare	Year of gestation
1			Year of breeding
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			

CERTIFICATION: I so hereby certify that the above named mares were exposed to this stallion on the dates shown above.

Signature of Stallion Owner (Print Name) \_\_\_\_\_

Address or Home No. \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

## AQHA LEASE AUTHORIZATION

Alterations or omissions void this form unless specified

The horse \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

File Booked Lease From \_\_\_\_\_

To \_\_\_\_\_

Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Residing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

for the period of time spanning from \_\_\_\_\_ Month, Day, Year \_\_\_\_\_

and ending \_\_\_\_\_

Should the lessee be a minor or an adult and the owner is authorized to sign all pertinent documents pertaining to this horse under the rules and regulations of the American Quarter Horse Association during this period, at the expiration of which period the owner's authority is terminated.

SIGNATURE OF LESSEE \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE OF OWNER \_\_\_\_\_

OR

If Ranch, Partnership, Corporation, etc.  
complete this portion:

Owner of Ranch, Partnership, Corporation, etc.: \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Owner, Ranch, Partnership, etc.

**A \$15 FEE IS REQUIRED TO RECORD EACH LEASE.**

Another form you may encounter in the Quarter Horse business is the AQHA Lease Authorization Form. For a lease of a horse to be recognized by the Association, whether for breeding, racing, showing, or performance purposes, a lease authorization form (as shown above) must be filed with AQHA.

The authorization form must be completed in its entirety. The top portion of the form requests the name of the horse being leased and the horse's registration number.

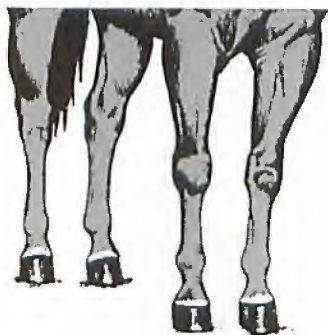
The current owner of the horse as well as the person who is leasing the horse must be printed in the specified area.

The date the lease agreement begins and the termination date of the lease must also be included in the proper spaces.

Both the lessee and the owner of the horse **must sign** the form. During the effective term of the lease, the lessee will be authorized to sign all pertinent documents (registration applications, stallion breeding reports, breeder's certificates, etc.) concerning the leased horse. However, this authorization ceases on the date the lease ends. No additional fee will be charged for termination of the lease. Nor, will the Association record subsequent changes of ownership until the lease is terminated by written notice of both parties involved.

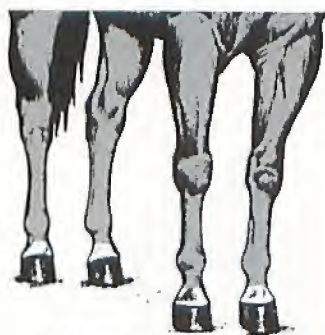
Remember to complete the markings information by outline on the diagram and in writing in the designated spaces on the registration application. Markings are one of the ways the horse you are registering will be identified the rest of his life.

Outline with dark solid lines all markings of the horse being registered. Remember the way you draw the markings on the application is exactly the way they will appear on the Registration Certificate.



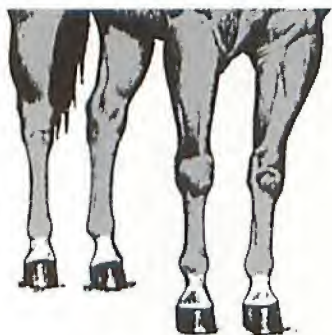
### CORONET

A coronet is any narrow marking around the coronet above the hoof.



### HALF PASTERNS

A marking which includes only half the pastern above the coronet.



### PASTERNS

A marking which includes the entire pastern.



### STOCKINGS

A stocking is a full marking to the area of the knee on the foreleg and to the area of the hock on the hind leg. It is an extended sock.

### SOCKS

A sock is a marking which extends around the leg from the coronet half way up the cannon bone, or half way to the knee on the foreleg or half way to the hock on the back leg.





**STAR**

A star is any marking on the forehead.



**SNIP**

A snip is any marking, usually vertical, between the two nostrils.



**STRIP**

A strip is a narrow marking extending vertically in the area between the forehead and the nostrils.



**STAR AND STRIP**

A marking on the forehead with a strip to the nasal peak. The strip does not have to be an extension of the star.



**BALD FACE**

A bald face is a very broad blaze. It can extend out and around the eyes and it can extend down to the upper lip and around the nostrils.



**STAR, STRIP and SNIP**

A marking on the forehead with a narrow extension of the nasal peak and opening up again between the nostrils.



**BLAZE**

A blaze is a broader vertical marking extending the length of the face.

The following pages depict the 13 recognized colors of the American Quarter Horse.

These photographs depict what is considered to be typical in each of the color categories as indicated in the **Official Handbook**. Note the ranges within each recognized color. As in the case of the bay, the color may range from tan through red to reddish brown.

It is up to you, as the one registering the foal, to determine which of the 13 recognized colors best depicts the color of your particular horse.

Remember color and markings are the primary way in which your horse can be identified by the AQHA. Please examine the following pages carefully so that you clearly understand the colors. Then complete each registration application accordingly. This prevents future problems concerning the horse's registration or the horse's competition in races or shows.



Star, strip, and snip. Left fore half pastern white. Right hind stocking.  
(Note this horse's flaxen tail is often found with the sorrel color.)

## SORREL

Body color reddish or copper-red; mane and tail usually same color as body, but may be flaxen.



Blaze. White on lower lip and chin. Socks on fore feet. Left hind stocking.



Star, strip and snip. Stockings on hind legs.

## CHESTNUT

Body color dark red or reddish-brown; mane and tail usually dark red or reddish-brown, but may be flaxen.



Blaze. Left fore sock.



Blaze. Socks on all feet.

## BAY

Body color ranging from tan, through red, to reddish brown; mane and tail black; usually black on lower legs.



Right hind coronet white.



No markings.

## BROWN

Body color brown or black with light areas at muzzle, eyes, flank, and inside upper legs; mane and tail black.



Left fore pastern white.



Star and snip. Left hind half pastern white. Right hind sock.

## BLACK

Body color true black without light areas; mane and tail black.



No markings.

## PALOMINO

Body color a golden yellow; mane and tail white.  
Palominos do not have dorsal stripes,



Star, strip, and snip.



Fore pasterns white. Left hind sock.

## BUCKSKIN

A form of dun with body color yellowish or gold; mane and tail black; usually black on lower legs; often has dorsal stripe.



Right hind sock.

## DUN

Body color yellowish or gold; mane and tail may be black, brown, red, yellow, white, or mixed; often has dorsal stripe, zebra stripes on legs, and transverse stripe over withers.



Star and strip. Right hind sock.



No markings.

## RED DUN

A form of dun with body color yellowish or flesh colored; mane, tail, and dorsal stripe are red.



No markings.

## GRULLO

Body color smoky or mouse-colored (not a mixture of black and white hairs, but each hair mouse-colored); mane and tail black; usually black on lower legs.



Elongated star. Hind half pasterns white.



No markings. (A relatively young horse with the graying effect most predominant on its head — note that on roan horses (see pictures), head and lower legs remain dark though body is roaned.)

## GRAY

Mixture of white with any other colored hairs; after born solid colored or almost solid colored and get lighter with age as more hairs appear.



Blaze. Left hind stocking. Dark spots on left hind coronet. (Note that in this horse, the gray characteristic is superimposed over a basic sorrel or chestnut color, making this a gray horse. Note, too, that is a common characteristic of gray horses to have patches of concentrated white hair which are not objectionable as long as there is dark skin underlying the patches.)



No markings. (An intermediate stage of the graying effect. This commonly would be called a dappled gray.)

## GRAY

Mixture of white with any other colored hairs; after born solid colored or almost solid colored and get lighter with age as more hairs appear.



No markings. (An advanced stage of the graying effect, often called flea-bitten gray.)



Hind pasterns white. (Note the head and lower legs have remained predominantly dark.)

## BLUE ROAN

More or less uniform mixture of white and black hairs, usually with a few red hairs.



No markings. (Note the head and lower legs have remained predominantly dark.)



Star and strip. (Note roaning is primarily on body while head and legs have remained dark. Although mane and tail are black, horse is a red roan because head and roaned areas show a reddish color.)

## RED ROAN

More or less uniform mixture of white with red hairs.



No markings.  
(Note head and lower legs have remained dark while roaning is primarily on body.)



American  
Quarter  
Horse  
Association

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